The reason urged by one of them that the owners of the landed property were the women and that the men stood only in the relation of trustees would not hold water. Even granting that position, was it consistent with the right of females as owners that *karanavans* should alienate many lands or was it the prime duty of *karanavans* ? Nowhere was it placed on record that females were the owners of lands. On the other hand, the need for partition was realised more by females than by males. The opinion of another Council member was that there was no unanimity of views on the question of partition. That was not a sound position to take up, the Member contended, as no piece of social legislation could be passed with the unanimous approval of all the persons affected by that legislation. To the position taken up by the third member that there was no general feeling in the country in favour of partition, the reply was that, out of 625 land-owning witnesses examined by the Nair Committee, 463 or 74 per cent. were for partition, 94 or 14 per cent. were for awarding maintenance to the members of the tarwad, and 557 or 88 per cent. had accepted the principle of partition. Many words were not needed to say which of the opinions was indicative of the real feeling in the country. The view put forward by the fourth member was not based on close knowledge and experience of tarwad management and was, therefore, not of much value. For, the same gentleman in some of his later utterances had favoured partition. The Member then explained the provisions of the draft Bill prepared by Mr. T. K. Velu Pillai and vetoed by Government and reiterated the grounds on which the Bill was then vetoed. In conclusion, the Member earnestly requested that urgent action be taken to stop the course of ruin to which the Nair community was drifting on account of the want of a law of partition.

Dewan's reply.—If Government are convinced as to the existence of a reasonable volume of public opinion in favour of the proposal for partition, the necessary action will be taken.

35. Desirability of expunging certain portions of the Report of the Jenmi-Kudiyan Committee.

Mr. Thrivikramar Vasudevar (Member, Jenmi, Padmanabhapuram Division) submitted that it was the fourth time he represented the grievances of his community on the report of the Jenmi-Kudiyan Committee. The necessity for a Committee to inquire into the working of the Jenmi-Kudiyan Regulation and the relations between the Jenmies and the Kudiyans arose out of the large volume of litigation between the two which caused the ruin of both. But, unfortunately, the impression produced was a sense of keen dissatisfaction with the report, in the minds of both Kudiyans and Jenmies. Certain portions were even highly offensive and so it had been urged on several occasions that such portions should be expunged. Their request was that another enquiry should be held and a dispassionate report called for to serve as a basis for any action to be taken by Government. The very first object of Government was to maintain cordial relations between the Kudiyans and Jenmies which had been completely frustrated by the report which, it was the earnest wish of the two parties, should not be taken up for the consideration of Government.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

36. The Legislative Council Regulation, I of 1095.

Mr. Ousep Devasia (Member, Trading Classes, Changanacherry) expressed the thanks of the people for the reform of the Legislative Council, but submitted that the provisions did not go far enough to satisfy the expectations of the people. He trusted that it was only the foundation for a further instalment of reform.

Mr. K. P. Raman Pillai, B. A. & B. L. (Member, Quilon taluk) observed that it was significant of the abiding loyalty of Travancoreans that all were agreed that the people ought to be thankful to His Highness the Maha Raja for His Highness' parental solicitude for the welfare of the people committed to his care and his princely munificence in promoting their welfare. As it had been said, "His

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